

SAUK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

2008 RESOLUTIONS

1. CONCERN FOR THE POOR

WHEREAS, A cornerstone of the Democratic policy has always been to take the moral and ethical position that Kuchinich refers to as being concerned with “the least of these among us,” and Edwards refers to as “the growing gap between the rich and the poor,”
THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW reiterate its historical position of advocating for the millions of the poor who feel disenfranchised in our society, and continuing to champion the cause of liberty, equality and justice for all. (81 words)

2. MARRIAGE AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, Section 13 of Article XIII of the Wisconsin Constitution denies equal treatment under the law to gay and lesbian citizens, discriminates against unmarried couples, and harms the children of unmarried couples by denying them the legal protection afforded to children of married parents,
THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Wisconsin is committed to repeal Section 13 of Article XIII of the Wisconsin Constitution. (65 words)

3. ABORTION

WHEREAS, for many citizens abortion for any reason is a sin and should be prohibited,
THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW should take the compromise position that early term abortion is a right that should be safe, affordable and available to all women, while late-term abortion is a right that should be available to women in case of unusual circumstances such as rape, the life of the mother, or health complications of the unborn child. (74 words)

4. HEALTHY WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the lack of health insurance for thousands of Wisconsinites continues to be a leading cause of personal bankruptcy; health care costs and premiums continue to rise,
THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW support the adoption of Healthy Wisconsin, which will cover everyone not eligible for public programs like Medicare and Medicaid and will lower health care costs, premiums and taxes. (60 words)

5. UNIVERSAL NATIONAL SERVICE WITH OPTIONS

WHEREAS, some countries have a highly beneficial policy of having every young person upon reaching the age of 18 given the opportunity to spend two years in service to their country, usually in the military.
THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW recommends that every young person in the United States, upon reaching the age 18, spend two years in service to their country by working, with compensation, in such areas as the National Guard, social service agencies, or the Peace Corps. (79 words)

6. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

WHEREAS, Global Warming is already a recognized as an international problem, but it is only one of a much broader range of environmental problems caused by the twin factors of increasing population pressure, and the practice of governments, including the current Republican lead government in the United States, to place corporate profits over environmental protection,
THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW renew its efforts both nationally and internationally to control population growth and place environmental protection over corporate profits. (76 words)

7. EXITING IRAQ

WHEREAS, President Bush and his Republican Administration refused to heed Colin Powell's warning, "If you break it it's yours," and we broke it and now it is our responsibility to get it back in working order, which is a job far beyond what our military can do, or even beyond what the United States can do.

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW recommends that, at our expense, the UN be asked to replace all of our military with an International Peace Keeping Force and to remain there to provide security until the Iraq government can reestablish itself and rebuild what we have broken. (101 words)

8. NELSON-KNOWLES STEWARDSHIP FUND

WHEREAS, Wisconsin enjoys exceptional quality in its natural areas, many of which are increasingly threatened by development, hindering Wisconsin's future development as a center for tourism, protection of natural areas and outdoor recreation;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW will seek bipartisan legislative support for expansion of the Nelson-Knowles Stewardship Fund to acquire lands of environmental and recreational value, and resist efforts to sell any lands already protected in order to help meet state budget needs (72 words)

9. VIOLENCE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, there are growing national concerns about today's violence in our public schools, and the contributing relationships between student violence and school, home and community environments, are complex, possibly including such things as excessive violence on TV, in movies, video games and music, the violence that comes from being at war, isolation that is now possible sitting at a computer, the emphasis placed on academic achievement under the "no child left behind" mandate, and lack of moral and ethical teachings in both homes and schools.

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW push for a Governor's Conference on Violence in Schools to come up with a response. (105 words)

10. SAVE OUR SCHOOLS.

WHEREAS, Wisconsin schools have always enjoyed a reputation for excellence, from starting the first kindergarten to the world renowned University of Wisconsin, in recent years that reputation has been tarnished by a school funding formula that is unfair not only to rural school districts but inner city schools as well,

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, The Democratic Party of Wisconsin will commit to supporting legislation that will rework school funding so that it will be fair and equitable to the taxpayer and the student. (81 words)